

CONFIDENTIAL

2 Sep 52

I personally feel that most of the three sets of lectures contributed much to me, not so much in the knowledge of facts or the understanding of political theory, as in the development of a broader comprehension of the Soviet people and their leaders as a product of their history and environment. I feel that all of the lecturers did their utmost, and succeeded admirably in presenting their material in an interesting way under the great disadvantage of unfamiliarity with the backgrounds or capacities of the people who made up their classes. It would perhaps be easier for them and for the students as well, if those who already had a background in the material given were allowed to attend a different class from those who had no experience.

I feel that courses of this type should be on a completely voluntary basis. Attendance will be nearly as high as if the course were required, while any who felt that they were not getting what they should would feel free to spend their time more profitably on their regular work. The courses should be regarded only as a privilege, never as a burden. This is the only way of adapting a course of this nature to such a heterogeneous group as comprised the classes this summer. I believe it would be a mistake to make stipulated outside reading compulsory for everyone in an adult group of this type.

I think that if any one in the group feels a need for clarification or discussion of a particular point at any time he should feel free to initiate it. In general, however, I feel that the lecturer should present his own ideas rather than strive to elicit

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

unwilling remarks which do not benefit the class as a whole, or to force questions which he wrongly feels are the only proof that he has gotten his ideas across.



25X1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~